Crosby Post

No. 9 Vol. 2.
Christmas 1953.

Sleep in Heavenly peace

Private journal of the Crosby Society

Jean Rainey's Christmas

CROSBY TALK

It is now definitely decided that Bing (and Bob Hope) will not make "The ROAD TO THE MOON". This film, which was to been made in the New Year, was spoken about by Bing recently. Bing siad, "Everybody's doing this type of story and, by the time we get around to making our version, it would be old stuff."

So Bing will go into "The COUNTRY GIRL" about March with co-stars Jennifer Jones and William Holden.

It's definite at long last! Bing is to make his television debut in the United States on December 27th, 1953. The guest stars have not been decided upon yet but Bing is really looking forward to his venture and so is most of America. One thing that American commercial television has over our soon to be "Sponsored Television" in this country is Bing Crosby, in other words, it must be a very idea. Our country might do well to follow the American way of T/V. Who wouldn't give five minutes advertising for twenty five minutes of Crosbyana.

Now that Bing has discarded his twenty~~xfixx~~ year old signature tune, "Where the Blue of the Night", we could suggest that he adopt either "Rumours Are Flying" or "Don't Believe Everything You Hear" ("Dream"). It's pretty safe to assume that Bing has had more rumours and untrue stories spread about him than ~~xxxxxxxx~~ anyone else in show business.
As you have, no doubt, read in your local newspapers, Bing was involved in an automobile collision on October 11th in which he smashed his new Mercedes-Benz 300' recently acquired by him in Europe. Bing wrenched his back slighlty but, unfortunately, the incident didn't stop there. The driver of the other car, who was badly injured, brought a court action for damages to the extent of One Million Dollars. He charged Bing with driving " at a wanton and reckless rate of speed in violation of traffic controls - and driving while under the influence of drink."
How the driver who brought these charges or the driver's passengers (two) all badly injured and who were taken straight to hospital could have discovered that Bing was in the alleged state no one seems to know. Here is the true story:

Bing was questioned at the scene of the accident and he told the two highway patrol officers that he came to the intersection, where the accident occured, saw no other vehicles so he started across. He then felt a crash and was not able to regain control of his car. The Highway Patrol Hedaquarters issued a statement to the effect that, when he was questioned, Bing acted in a very sober manner and, had there been any reason for doubting his sobriety, they would have had him take the usual medical tests. They added that he had committed no traffic violation and there was no indication that he had been driving recklessly. The officers said there were no witnesses to the accident, and two of the three occupants of the other car were asleep at the time the accident occurred.

When Bing was called to answer the charges at the office of the plaintiff's lawyer he said that he had, "three - maybe four whisky and sodas in an eight hour period before the crash and, between these drinks he had eaten a big dinner." Bing emphatically denied that he was drunk at the time of the crash.
The outcome of this is not known at the time we go to press but, as you may gather from the preceding information, it doesn't look as though these people will get a cent out of Bing. All the evidence seems to point to a frame up.

Apart from the usual rumours of Bing's engagement or marriage to one lady or another, which we can now read of with amusement, there was another rumour, set by the champion ofall champions, Hedda Hopper. She reported that Bing and Danny Kaye were not getting along too well on the set of "White Christmas". The true fact is that Bing and Danny are getting along splendidly - they kid and make jokes. Not as per Hope - Crosby for they both have much regard for each other as an artist and respects the other when either is a spectator watching the other work.

So much for rumours and the explosions thereof.

Included in this issue you will find a letter from our counrty wide popular comedian, TED RAY. As you know, Mr. Ray was one of the four stars who played at the charity golf match at Maidenhead in September 1952. We asked him if he would kindly write us his own personal impression of his meeting with Bing for "Crosby Post". We are very indebted to Ted forhis most gracious and friendly reply which we know you will enjoy.

One of our members, Miss Nancy Boyd of Belfast, has asked me to thank all those kind members who sent her cuttings and pictures of Bing anonymously. We thankyou too.

THE CANDID SNAP ENCLOSED AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THIS ISSUE was taken at Palm Springs in the summer of 1952. In the picture are Bing, Dixie, Philip, Dennis and Lindsay and the character not known to us is the mayor of Palm Springs. The negative, from which this snap was printed, was kindly loaned to us by Jeanette James of Tennessee.

Before bringing "Croz-talk" to an end I would like to renew a request I made sometime ago about the filling in of postal orders for subscriptions and renewals. PLEASE DON'T MAKE YOUR POSTAL ORDERS OUT TO "The Crosby Society" or "The British Bing Club". WE ARE NOT ABLE TO CASH POSTAL ORDERS SO MARKED for the banks and the General Post Office do not acknowledgee us as a registered business concern probably because we are not a money making concern or a charity. Dot tells me that she has received postal orders made out to "Bing Crosby's Secretary". IF YOU ARE ABOUT TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FILL IN THE SPECIAL FORM BELOW. Right down at the bottom of this page you will find our'reminder of renewal' notice. If you are due for renewal you will find a large "X" on the left hand side of the notice.

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE "CROSBY SOCIETY"

Simply enclose,with this form, a postal order for the amount of seven-shillings-and-sixpence. Do not write a single thing on the postal order or it will be returned as 'invalid' but do detach the counterfoil and keep it at home in a safe place. Put both this form and postal order in a sealed envelope bearing a twopence-halfpenny stamp and the address is :- MRS. D. HARDIMAN, 1/17, NEW STREET, SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE. Do not write anything else on the envelope.

RENEWAL/ APPLICATION. BLOCK LETTERS ONLY.

My name is: _____

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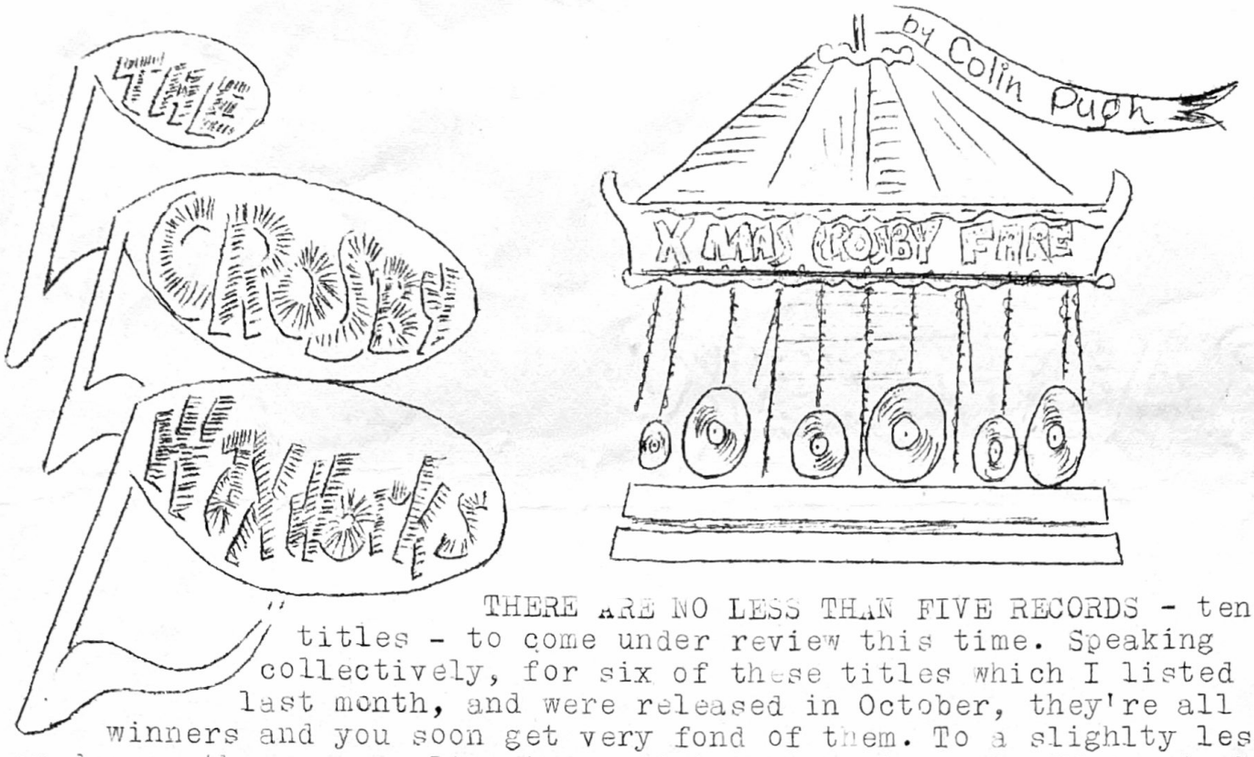
An "X" here ..... indicates your membership is about to expire.



THERE ARE NO LESS THAN FIVE RECORDS - ten titles - to come under review this time. Speaking collectively, for six of these titles which I listed last month, and were released in October, they're all winners and you soon get very fond of them. To a slighlty lesser degree the same applies to a mid-October release of "Mademoiselle de Paree"/"Embrasse" on Brunswick 05182. A collector friend of mine registers his disappointment at not having both these vocals in French as he had expected from the titles. Personally, I think that unless you are well versed in a particular language so that you can even think in that language, the euphony of the lyrics is lost upon you: and this counts so much in Bing's style of rendition. Proof of this can be found in the pleasant sensation we experience when we listen to him singing the words ending in 'ing' and his dropping the final 'g': and pronouncing 'dew' as 'doo' and many similar instances which make for a softer, smoother expression. To say the most for for the two titles from Bing's film, "Little Boy Lost", which are issued for November, they are disappointing. They're on Brunswick 05203, "Cela M'est Egal"(If it's all the same to you)/"The Magic Window. The strange thing about both tunes is that as part of the film , and in the natural easy way Bing puts them over, the poorness of them is not apparent. In addition to the ten Brunswick issues up for review it's been suggested that I also review our club issues of non-commercial recordings. Unfortunately, I do not possess the Long Play issue so I shall only be able to deal with the 78 one.

"HELLO YOUNG LOVERS" on Bruns. 05172 is from the American stage musical, 'The King and I'. Recorded on 9 April 1951 it has the matrix no. L6219. It was issued on American Decca 27588 and the orchestral accompaniment is that of Victor Young's. Assuming that this clever tune does not 'get over to you' first hearing you may rest assured it's subtle theme will grow on you. It's easily the best song from the show, though probably tying for this position with it's backing which is - ------

"SOMETHING WONDERFUL", also from "The King and I", was recorded on 9 April 1951. Issued in USA on Decca 27588. Matrix no. L6221. Victor Young's orchestra again accompanies on this side. This tune, which is most unusual,will soon become a great favourite with you. Without a doubt, all the songs from this show carry the 'trade mark' of their composers, Rodgers and Hammerstein. I should say that Bing is even in better voice on this side.

We have "I WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE" on Bruns. 05173 - again from the above show. This title is apparently the solution of what to do when you're afraid. Being a quicker tempo type of song this snappy tune has a fair amount of appeal and is delivered by a bouncing Bing, vocally - that is. In this we are also treated to some of Bing's inimatable whistling as we might hope from the title. Same show, same orchestra, same recording session. Matrix no. ~~XXXXX~~ L6218 issued on USA Decca 27598.

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU" backs the prvious song on 05173, and is performed at about the same tempo, but more tuneful. At first hearing you may think there are too many words to fit the tune, but as you become familiar with the number, you realise it's quite in keeping with the general character of all the songs from "The King and I".

It comes from the same session as the other three tunes and bears Matrix no. L6620. In the USA it was issued on Decca27598.

"WALK ME BY THE RIVER" on Brunswick 05181, brings us another of those delightful songs we always get when Bing is accompanied by Perry Botkin and his Guitars. Admittedly, a very simple tune but, very pretty, and Bing with a deep soothing voice, just breathes it out. Matrix no. is L7046.

"HUSH-A-BYE", the backing of the above song, on 05181, falls into the category of a 'lullaby' which, of course, is Bing's speciality. He sings it in a voice deep and round - with ghostly effect, whispering, ethereal voices figure in the background singing the title words over and over again. A typical Bing 'finish' is heard as he sings (in excellent voice) the last two words of the actual chorus, 'go away'. This song is from the "Jazz Singer" and the accompaniment is by Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. Originally on USA Decca 28581 carrying Matrix no. 83729.

"MADEMOISELLE DE PAREE" (on Bruns. 05182) is a bright little tune which, although may not rate quite so highly as others reviewde , should be very well received on the whole. It's theme is light-hearted and gay, depicting French femininity. Matrix is no.84783 A.

"EMBRASSE" (Hold Me Close") is the backing of 05182, and rates about the same as "Mlle. Paree". This one is in more serious mood and consists of an eight line ditty. The usual hackneyed chorus form, I understand, has now had it's ex run and will gradually give place to to four and eight line stanzas in our popular song fare.. This is really a return to old time ballads. As you will probably notice on this side of the record, XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX there is too much'top' which is feature of modern recordings. I consider that the engineers have rather overdone it in this case and have made the accompaniment sound a bit shrill at times. Matrix no. is 84782 A.

"THE MAGIC WINDOW" is from Bing's film, 'Little Boy Lost' at present doing the rounds of the country's cinemas. It is on Bruns. 05203. It's a simple little ditty for children which, no doubt, fits well into the film, but listening to it on thes record, I find it very insipid. It must be said in all fairness that Bing sings it very well indeed. Much of my surprise is expelined when I look at the names of the two who composed it. I don't want tobe accused of repeating myself, and I'd hate the composers in question to think that there was anything personal in my bias, but I don't give you three guesses as to their identity. John Scott Trotter's orchestra supports this recording which has Matrix no. L7083.

"CELA M'EST EGAL - IF IT'S ALL THE SAME TO YOU" backs our preceding title and is also from Bing's new film. By the same composers, most of my remarks about the last recording apply here with the chief difference being it is more lively. What a pity Bing's songwriters are not of the calibre of Rodgers and Hammerstein. John Scott Trotter's orchestra again backs up Bing on this which bears Matrix no. L7082.

"THAT OLD BLACK MAGIC" on the private club label,"Crosbyana", is one side of our first 78 rpm record and it's number is CS ST 1. Those of you who have bought a copy must be quite pleased with it for it's reproduction is very good, and it is most welcome as a non-commercial. In it's heyday this song was usually associated with Frank Sinatra who did a very popular version of it, but here, accompanied John Scott Trotter and his orchestra , we have a much better version by the Groaner, bereft of artificial trimmings with which Sinatra works, and delivered in a firm, strong voice. As you are probably aware, this recording has a lengthy chorus in keeping with the actual composition.

"NEVADA" appears on the reverse side of the initial club label also having John Scott Trotter to accompany, in an excellent manner, This also has the advantage of being a first class tune, and as is usual when he has good supporst and good materail Bing gives unparalleled vocalizing, delivering a chorus in strong,round tones.

"MY IDEAL" is an extra on this side is no mention was made when our orders were requested and might be considered a 'bonus'.This one time hit can be reviewed as per "That old Black Magic" exactly.

My sincere Christmas and New Year greetings to everyone.

MY Christmas STORY

by Bing Crosby.

..... the meaning of Christmas itself is the greatest gift of all. It's the light and hope of the world. God grant it may be with us always.....

A couple of years ago, the spirit of Christams descended on the Crosby clan a couple of months ahead of schedule. The four sprouts and I had just finished up a heavy haying season on the ranch at Elko, Nevada, and were loafing around at Hayden Lake before we were due to check in at school and C.B.S, respectively. We'd been doing some fishing, riding, and throwing football around a bit, and Christmas was absolutely the last thing in our minds.

Then, one sizzling afternoon, when the temperature was just about to explode the thermometer, I got a call from Hollywood. It was Johnny Burke, a lyric writer of considerable repute. He was plainly excited.

"Hey, Bing, listen to this! he said, with a gasp.

There was a moments pause, broken up by the shuffling background noise of Jimmy Van Heusen sliding into place behind the piano. Then Johnny, in his fractured tenor voice, started to sing.

I pause to mention that Johnny is not my favourite singer. Personally, I like Sinatra better, or the Andrews Sisters, or even for that matter, a certain weary baritone of my life-long acquaintance. But while Johnny's voice isn't much to boast about his material is always bright and new. He had a Christmas song ... a heart warming little ditty about a snowman who melted away, and as his voice came over on that distant Hollywood-to-Hayden-Lake hook-up, I began to get feel of the song. Before he hung up Johnny said that he and Jimmy had a couple of other yuletide songs, too.

"Deck them out with boughs and holly," I said. "The boys and I will be down next week and see what kind of family harmony we can work up."

"Don't worry, Pop," said Linny. "We'll kill 'em."

Next week, when we started recording rehearsals at Decca studios, it seemed like the most natural thing in the world to record the songs as a family Christmas album. So that's what we did. The twins, Dennis and Philip, chose the snowman number. Linny took over a bright little tune called, "I'd like to hitch a ride with Santa Claus". Gary and the old man drew the end piece, a straightforward song entitled, "That Christmas Feeling" which comes mighty close, I think, to expressing the true spirit of Christmas:

"I love that Christmas feeling,
It does my heart so much good.
Strangers I meet all seem like friends
And the world's just a neighbourhood.
So here's to the joy of Christmas
Here's to the ones I hold dear,
May you have that merry Christmas feeling
All through a happy new year." ****

Even if I do say so, our Christmas album turned out to be a fair country set of sides .... pretty good, that is, for five farmers just in from the range. And I am not without a touch of pride when I say that I thought the boys handled the songs very well. If they keep coming along like this I know I'll have something to fall back on in my old age.

Of course, it's perfectly natural that our first family offering should be an album of Christmas songs. The Irishers and I have been singing lo! each Yuletide these many years, and it would be a break

In a long tradition if this year, too, we don't spend a large part of Christmas day out in the cold,crisp winter air caroling our neighbou and other friends of the Crosby family. A year or two ago we went to over thirty houses ... starting out in Holmby Hills and playing the circuit all the way out to old Ski-snoot's place in North Hollywood.

The boys like to end up at the Hope house. He always puts at least five dollars in the kitty which goes to charity. So do Johnny Burke and the others who seem to like our version of "Silent Night". But at brother Everett's house, they don't bother to pass the hat. He always gives them a dime apiece.

This year, I shall try to make Christmas very much the same at our house as it has been since the boys have been old enough to enjoy it. Especially, in these troubled times, Christmas should be a time for kids to enjoy themselves, and a time for us old folks to pause and count our blessings.

Like as not the kids will bring home some of their school pals for Christmas. Each year they do, I am reminded of our big house at Spokane, a block away from Gonzaga, which was always a swarm on Chritmas day. To this day I don't know how Da managed to hold up after all his exertions at carving the turkey for so many people. Most of us were back for seconds before he could sit down. Yet, as soon as he saw an empty plate down on the table he would yell, "Back up your cart, son! and he would reload it with turkey.

Everett and Ted always got stuck with the dishes.

As always, our Christmas day this year will begin with early mass at our local church, the Good Shepherd. For many years it has been my most humble privilege to sing "Adeste Fidelis" at this early mass.

After church, we will rush home and tear open our presents at the foot of our big tree.

When dinner is over we'll probably all gather around the tree, which will probably be so monstrous it really should have been left outdoors. A few years ago we had a big tree that caught fire, but we wouldn't have any other kind of tree in our house. It wouldn't be 'Christmas'.

In the afternoon, open house prevails at the Crosby manor prevails, and we welcome random wanderers who stop to quaff a bit of egg-nog or to pass the time of day.

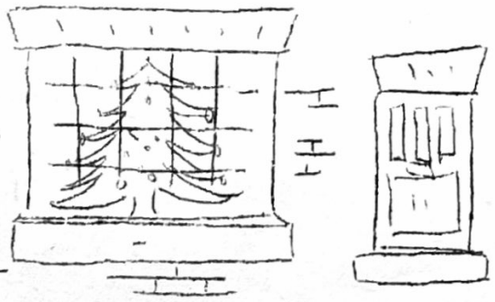
It will be the surprise of my day if I'm not called away to some radio broadcast or jollity. For some strange reason, I am always called away at the height of our family festivities. I'm hoping, for once, that I shall be able to sit down with my feet up and settle the turkey for a change.

This year, with strife again making it's ugly self felt in the lives of millions of ordinary people, I believe that Christmas will have a renewed meaning to us all. And, with the fundamental values of Christmas being threatened as never before, we must be staunch in our faith that they will live forever. The secure peace of family life, the glowing kindness of man to fellow man, the power of simple personal prayer - these things, as they are embodied in our celebration of Christmas day, are the light of the world. May yours be merry.

"BING CROSBY'S CHRISTMAS STORY" is a reprint from "Modern Screen".

**** The words of the chorus of the song "That Christmas Feeling" appear by permission of Van Huesen and Burke and their associates.

Editorial



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS....

This double size Christmas issue allows me a little more space than usual and I may as well take the opportunity to mention a few letters from members.

I am often very pleased to find,in my postbox, a letter headded "The Dingle Fuck Shop, Dingle". The first time I saw this address I could not help remarking what a quaint adress it was. Now, the quaintness has gone and I look forward to the interesting contents to be found in each letter bearing this 'Pickwick-ian' adress.
Our Dingle Fuck Shop member tells me she wrote to both Bing and Lindsay Crosby when they were over here earlier this year. In reply she recieved what she had asked of Bing andj in addition, was a very charming letter from Lindsay. Needless to say, our colleague was especially pleased at this extra thoughtfulness.

Arthur Groves has recently written me and tells me he cannot help but feel a little sad at Bing's apparent relunctance to appear as a vocalist at theatres and concert halls in this country.
I think we all share Arthur Grove's disappointment and the only answer that can be offered is 'contract'. Bing has so many commitments which cannot allow him to appear in English variety. This is really evidence of his great standing in the entertainment world for many American artists appearing yearly in this country do so simply because they have not been asked to work in the States. Of course, some stars from the USA depend on personal appearances over here to help make their name and to show that they are capable of holding their own on our theatre stages. Bing, of course, needs no boosting. He is an accepted institution in this country and, as personal appearances on stage mean much hard work for a minority it is no surprise that the Groaner chooses to entertain via radio and films alm st exclusively thus providing his type of singing to more people in more places than could e.er be accomplished by occasional stage appearances.

Mr. Groves also brings up the subject of Bing's age. He says the 'Caddy' counts him as fifty-three whereas it is written in many text books that Bing is a 1904 boy. I have seen Bing's age as 49 in 'Call Me Lucky' however, it may be the Paramount studio's wish that he be 49 just as it was their wish he should wear a toupee at all public appearances until recently. One of Bing's brother's books on the Groaner's life story says that Bing was christened in 1904 for sure and at that time no registrations of births were entered in Washington, D.C's civil offices. We don't rightly know Bing's age but we all agree that he is not yet at the retiring stage.

Those of you who bought the club's Long Play record were, no doubt, very surprised and probably embarrassed when you played the record and found that the notorious "Wrap your troubles in dreams" song-fiasco. This was completely without my knowledge and directly contrary to my wishes. I can only venture to suggest that our most enthusiastic benefactor,(mr. John Joyce) was only aiming to please by adding this singular example of Bing's impropriety. Unfortunately, this unexpected happening has upset, even displeased, some members and I relunctantly announce that the club will not undertake to issue any more acetate recordings.

Jean and I have had only praise for "Crosby Post" and, while this makes us both extremely bugged, we cannot help but feel that we have not pleased everybody. Once more we ask for your criticisms and ideas for making the journal more enjoyed.

Among letters we have been pleased to receive are suggestions

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HOLLYWOOD'S FATHER PAYTON - or as he is more generally known , Father Pat - tells of a Christmas day when BING CROSBY was to sing "Adeste Fidelis" on the Father's special rosary radio programme, and a oke to find himself a victim of 'flu that included a throat raw with infection and inflammation. Bing 'phoned immediately - but not to cancel. He wanted to arrange that the chorus be rehearsed so that they could break in at any point at which his voice might fail.
The programme went on and Bing sang his song perfectly. When someone asked him how he did it, Bing was thoughtful.
"Someone must have said a prayer," he replied with simple sincerity.

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**** editorial - continued. ****

Any member interested in back dated film annuals and film magazines please look through the following list:-

PICTURE SHOW ANNUAL - 1950 Original price 8/6. S/hand for 4/6.
PICTURE SHOW ANNUAL -1951 .. .. 7/6 .. .. 4/-.
HOLLYWOOD PREVIEW - 1946 (Bogart/Bacall on front).. .. 4/-.
HOLLYWOOD PREVIEW - 1947 (Blue circus typecover) .. .. 3/6.
HOLLYWOOD ALBUM -1948 (Gloria De Haven cover) .. .. 4/-.
FILM REVIEW -1945/1946/1947/1948/1949 each one .. .. 4/-.
LIFE STORIES OF STARS,including Bing,no portrait... .. 4/-.
PICTUREGOER FILM ANNUAL -1949, Bing Close up. .. .. 5/-.
WINCHESTER'S FILM ENCYCLOPEDIA includes everything about the screen, statistics, stars,directors, cinema circuits, Bing, originally cost 22/- secondhand price 10/6.
PICTURE SHOWS from 1949 - six month's issues for 2/-.
PICTUREGOER MAGAZINES - approx. one year's issues (25) for each year from 1946 to 1949..price 1/9 each year.
PICTUREGOER MAGAZINES - approx. six months issues(weekly) for each year from 1949 to present year. price 2/- for each6 months.
AMERICAN 'MODERN SCREEN' MAGAZINES - any month from July 1949 price each copy 1/2 - six copies for 6/- - 1 year's copies 10/-.

All above in clean condition,mostly just as good as new. Interested members should write giving their particular wants to me, Mr. A.N.Allen, 68 Grimston road, Radford, Nottingham, and I will advise of the availability of above books and mags. All above prices include postage to your home. No responsibilty accepted for books lost in mail but any book or books may be returned against money back guarantee if they are found to be other than as described above.

Well, I'll leave you to the rest of this special Christmas "Crosby Post". With help from Jean and Colin I've tried to make this issue a little better than usual. It could be much better if you, yes you, would write us that article about your pet like or dislike. Don't forget this club for those who like the talents of Crosby is just as much yours as ours. Jean and I have repeatedly asked for your support but 'there just ain't no life' in the majority of club members. Why not make a New Year resolution. Resolve to do just a little for the club. If everybody does this you would find a much more interesting journal in the post every month.

I must not end on such a sour note so, on behalf of Jean and Colin,I wish you all a merry Christmas and a very prosperous new year.

Arthur.

:::::::::: T H E S T A R O F S T A R S . ::::::::::

We have recently undertaken to write to various top ranking personalities who have been associated with Bing Crosby asking them each to tell us just what they think of the Groaner. We don't think we are 'sticking our necks out' by doing this.

Our first and very prompt reply comes from one of this counntry's greatest personalities - T E D R A Y . For many years Ted went round the English Music Halls entertaining us with success. He went into musical comedy with Jill Manners in "Gangway" and then his break came in the form of a radio show on the BBC's London Region programme. I, being a great fan of Ted's, made a point of listening to his first programme and was delighted when it became a nation wide success and ended up on all the BBC's stations. I was pleased when, at Jean's suggestion, Ted sent this letter back to her. We both hope you enjoy this series which is purely an idea of Jean's.

A. N. A.

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BBC London.
October 27th 1953.

BING CROSBY by TED RAY.

MY FATHER ONCE TOLD ME THAT THE SECRET OF SUCCESS IN ANY TYPE OF COMPANY WAS BY BEING NATURAL. IT WAS NEVER MORE TRUE THAN IN THE CASE OF 'THE OLD GROANER' HIMSELF. I WAS INTRODUCED TO HIM IN THE LOCKER ROOM AT THE TEMPLE GOLF CLUB JUST PRIOR TO THAT HECTIC GOLF MATCH IN AID OF THE PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION, AND IN THE SPACE OF FIVE MINUTES, ONE HAD THE FEELING THAT ONE WAS TALIKING TO AN OLD FRIEND. OUT ON THE COIRSE WE WALKED SOMETIMES ARM IN ARM LIKE A COUPLE OF OLD CHUMS THROUGH THE DENSE CROWDS OF PEOPLE WHO HAD COME TO SEE THE GAME, AND OUR CONVERSATION WAS NOT SHOW BUSINESS OR TALKING "SHOP", BUT OF HOME AND FAMILIES. WE TALKED ABOUT PIPES AND TOBACCO, BEING DEVOTEES OF THE WEED THAT IS DRAWN THROUGH A STEM, AND WE FOUND THAT ALTHOUGH OUR JOBS KEPT US MILES APART WE WERE BASICALLY THE SAME TYPE OF CHAP. BACK IN THE CLUBHOUSE I HAD A SCOTCH AND SODA, BING HAD A GINGER ALE, A QUICK SMILE FROM THOSE FRIENDLY BLUE EYES AND HE WAS GONE. I HAVE OFTEN LOOKED BACK ON THOSE TWO OR THREE HOURS WITH ONE OF THE MOST HUMAN PEOPLE I HAVE MET IN MY MANY YEARS OF SHOW BUSINESS) I NEVER MISS ONE OF HIS FILMS.

signed Ted Ray

Our most grateful thanks to Mr. Ted Ray for giving his valuable time to writing this appreciation of Bing.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE we have great pleasure in being able to print a letter from an old friend of Bing's none other than the famous star of radio, theatre and "Goodnight Vienna" recording repute - Mr. Jack Buchanan. Jack, as you all know, has recently returned to the very top of the entertainment business and is finding life busier than ever. He was not too busy to spend an evening at The Palladium some weeks ago when the Groaner's stooge was playing there for pin money. Jack has also consented,very readily, to become an Honorary Member and we feel we have one of the greatest Crosby admirers in him.